



Island Beach State Park

STEPS FOR RESERVING A TOUR DATE



STEPS FOR RESERVING A TOUR DATE(S) AT ISLAND BEACH STATE PARK

1. You must have the following blank forms:
Form A Educational Tour Request
Form B Parking Fee Exemption
2. Fill out Form A completely
Note: School e-mail address is required (not personal e-mail address) and must be legible.
Guided tours are not given on Fridays during the months of April, May and June. Guided tours can be scheduled for a maximum of 50 students (2 groups of 25).
3. Fill out Form B
Sign Form B
Have school principal sign Form B
4. Fax both forms back to Island Beach Nature Center.
5. You will receive a confirmation by e-mail.



Island Beach State Park

EDUCATIONAL TOUR REQUEST



ISLAND BEACH STATE PARK
P.O. BOX 37
SEASIDE PARK, NJ 08752

TEL. # 732-793-1698
FAX # 732-830-8315
E-MAIL ibspnature@netcarrier.com

Please complete the Educational Tour Request and FAX it to the park. Upon receipt of this completed form and the Parking Fee Exemption, a tour confirmation will be e-mailed to your school or business. Completion of the entire form is necessary. Our office must receive your request 14 days prior to the requested date. PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY. Please use school or business addresses only.

Date(s) of Tour: (1) _____ (2) _____

Contact Individual: _____

Organization/Group: _____

School or Business Address: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

School E-mail: _____

Number of Students: _____ Grade Level: _____

Number & Type of Vehicles: _____

Estimated Arrival Time: _____ Estimated Departure Time: _____

TOUR DESCRIPTION: SELF-GUIDED _____ GUIDED _____

REQUESTED MATERIALS

Seine Nets: _____ Other: _____

LESSON PLAN: Please include desired park location and scheduled activities (ex. North Swimming Pavilion, sand study, drawings of primary dunes, seining, beach activities, etc.)



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Parking Fee Exemption



ISLAND BEACH STATE PARK
P.O. BOX 37
SEASIDE PARK, NJ 08752

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In order to qualify for the Educational Group Parking Fee Exemption, the following criteria must be met.

1. The group must be from a school, educational institution or other educational group program.
2. The trip must be limited to four hours or less.
3. The field trip must be related to a specific course of study.
4. The participants in the field trip must be accompanied by a teacher, instructor or guide who will not only participate in and supervise the program but also be responsible for student behavior.

If you meet the above criteria, please sign below and return.

Signatures from both the teacher and the school principal are required.

This form must be on file at the park on the day of your trip or the parking fee will be charged at the toll booth.

Date of Trip

School or Group

Signature of Teacher/Staff

Signature of School Principal
or Supervisor

**New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection~
Division of Parks & Forestry**

Island Beach State Park

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS

EDUCATIONAL GROUP REGULATIONS

Park regulations are designed to insure that the sensitive areas of Island Beach State Park remain protected, while providing opportunities for both study and recreation. The following guidelines are designed to assist educators in planning/implementing their field trip and to ensure that the unique features of Island Beach are protected.

GROUP INFORMATION

- Reservations must be made at least 10 days in advance and are made on a first come, first serve basis.
- Naturalists and volunteers provide educational information only – **not child supervision**. Organizations must provide adequate supervision for their group.
- Rest room facilities close seasonally (November to May). During the off-season facilities are open at the gate, park office, and Interpretive Center.
- The weather at the beach may be different from your area. Students should dress accordingly. Layers are recommended.
- It would be appreciated if elementary school students wore nametags.
- We reserve the right to terminate the visit of an ill-behaved group or individual.
- Island Beach is a carry-in, carryout park (i.e., all refuse must be removed when you depart). Carry-in, carryout bags are available.
- **Busses must stay with the group at all times.** Busses are not permitted to leave the park while the group is on a guided or self-guided tour.

RESERVATION PROCEDURE

- Advance reservations are required for all guided and self-guided tours.
- Reservations are made with the naturalist by sending the completed forms (Parking fee Exemption, Educational Tour Request including Lesson Plan) via Fax to 732-830-8315. Confirmation will be sent to the school e-mail address.
- There is no charge for educational programs. The parking fee will be waived if educational criteria are met.
- Designated sites are assigned based on group size, available staffing and the program needs of that group.
- A teacher packet providing background information relating to barrier beaches is available. These materials would familiarize your group with major concepts relating to the park. All materials may be adapted/duplicated. This packet may be picked up at the Nature Center if you are in the park prior to your tour. The packet will not be mailed.

PERMITTED ACTIVITIES

- Seining is permitted only in specific areas and arrangements must be made at the time the tour is booked. A limited amount of equipment is available for school use.
- Beach combing and collecting is permitted only from the open beach. Students are not permitted to remove any live animals.
- General abiotic sampling is permitted (i.e., recording air and water temperature, wind speed, water quality monitoring, beach clean ups, etc.)
 - Wave studies must utilize recoverable floating materials.
 - Beach profiles and vegetation transects may only be made east of the dunes or from a recognized access path.
 - Soil cores and temperature readings mainly be taken from the open beach or bay shore. Bay access is limited. All holes must be refilled.
- International Coastal Cleanup Data Cards are available for use with beach clean ups. Groups using the data cards will receive marine conservation information from the Center for Marine Conservation.

PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES

- Groups may not leave access paths to walk on the vegetation or dunes.
- Quadrant or hoop sampling of vegetation is prohibited.
- Plant specimens may not be collected.
- Students are not to feed or disturb wildlife.
- **SWIMMING IS NOT PERMITTED ON EDUCATIONAL TOURS.**

CHECK-IN PROCEDURE

- When you schedule your tour, you will be advised of a check-in location, usually the first stop on your tour.
- Due to scheduling and personnel constraints, groups which arrive late may find that they are not allotted a full tour. If you know that you will be arriving later than your scheduled time, please notify the park as soon as possible.
- Bus drivers are to remain with the group at all times. Areas will be designated for bus parking.

CANCELLATIONS

- Due to the high volumes of educational tours, rain dates cannot be scheduled. Depending on the size of your group, an alternative program may be provided indoors. Rescheduling will be done whenever possible.
- If you have any questions regarding inclement weather cancellations, contact the Nature Center at 732-793-1698 after 9:00 a.m. Should you require weather information prior to 8:00 a.m., contact the main gate at 732-793-0030.